

REMARKS

By the above amendment, claim 13 has been amended to delete multiple dependency and to place the claims in better form for examination.

Applicants respectfully traverse the Restriction Requirement. The Examiner has characterized the inventions of Groups I (claims 1-6 and 13) and II (claims 7-12) as "apparatus and product made". The Examiner has stated in the restriction requirement that "the product may be made by a materially different apparatus such as a mold for forming a disc with a recess therein which has a hollow cylinder adhered thereto in a subsequent process". However, even if the Examiner's characterization of Groups I and II as defining a related apparatus and product made were to be considered correct, Applicants respectfully request that all of the inventions defined in claims 1-13, nevertheless, be examined in the instant application, pursuant to the guidelines set forth in M.P.E.P. § 803. That is, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the requirement and find that there would not appear to be a "serious burden" on the Patent and Trademark Office in examining claims directed to the non-elected invention since the Examiner will have to search for the mold while searching for the intermediate for an optical recording medium.

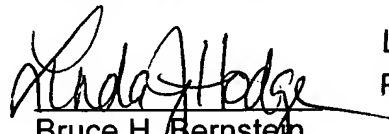
It would appear that the search for the inventions identified by the Examiner would be coextensive or at least significantly overlap. That is, if the Examiner were to perform a search for the invention of Group I, there would not appear to be a serious burden in continuing the examination of the other invention of Group II. For this reason, and consistent with Office policy as set

forth in M.P.E.P. § 803, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the Requirement for Restriction.

For the foregoing reasons, it is submitted that the Requirement for Restriction in this application is improper and it is respectfully requested that it be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
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